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U. S. Department of Agreement and

## Alpine Plants



## GRETHER & SON

Midland, Michigan

NURSERY: State road. Telephone 1102. 500 feet to the left at end

of Ashman street.

DISPLAY GARDEN: Corner West Park Drive and McGregor street.

Success in rock gardening depends upon a number of factors from which we name three as most important: the soil, the rocks and the plants.

The Soil: For general purpose prepare a porous, moisture-storing soil from rotten sod, stone chips or mortar or gravel, and peatmoss, peat or leafmold. By adding  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of sand to this a light, sandy soil is produced as is often requested. Adding a rich loamy humus to it gives a soil for heavy feeders, for fresh humus loving plants (Primulas).

The Rocks: You may use any rocks you may prefer or have on hand, but use them always for the benefit of the plants, for protection and as a cover for the roots, storing coolness and moisture during the hot summer days. Many alpines can be grown successfully only in combination with rocks and gravelly soil.

The Plants: We have to make an appeal to our customers in their own interest. So far everybody has been anxious to get results: a vigorous growing and flowering rock garden as quick as possible. When this is accomplished soon we hear the owner complain that the garden gets overcrowded, that a few varieties cannot be stopped from taking possession of the whole space, strangling whatever comes in their way. As nice, easy and useful in certain ways these quick-growing plants are, they are a nuisance when grown together with other plants of more moderate temper. Find out-of-way corners and borders where they can spread and ramble all by themselves. For your rock garden select plants of moderate or, still better, slow growth. They will increase in size and beauty only step by step, year by year. The investment is higher, but the planting is more permanent and, in the long run, more beneficial.

Our stock is propagated from plants grown under severe conditions in our open rock garden. The sturdier plants are field grown while the finer kinds are raised in pots. Pot plants in general transplant easier, especially during the advanced season.

We send out healthy young plants with a good root system. We do our utmost to have our plants true to name. Except for errors in packing, we can take no responsibility for plants shipped out for reasons beyond our control.

Prices are net, cash with order. For packing and postage add 10% extra. All orders with cash or check for \$5 and more will be packed and shipped without extra charge.

Special collections will not be listed but we will make them up as desired, as to quantity, price, location stated. Price average 20-25-30-35-40 cents apiece, and you may order as follows: A collection of 100 rock plants for sunny location for \$25.

Order early, in some varieties our stock is limited. On the other hand, we are propagating many new and interesting plants not ready for the list yet. If you are looking out for something unusual and not listed we may have it or can get it for you. Plants we use in our land-scape service and do not grow ourselves we get from the most reliable houses and under most favorable conditions. We are in connection with the best growers here and abroad and are propagating a choice stock of imported plants.

For Gladiolus, Dahlias and Iris we can recommend as the best resources: Kennedy Gardens, Midland, Mich. We will be pleased to forward any request for price list or any orders on these items to them.

Visitors are welcome. Telephone 1102. Rock garden telephone 373.

We plan, build and plant complete gardens in any style as well as gardens in part, such as rock-, wall-, water- and sunken gardens, Swiss meadows, and invite you to get in touch with us. We furnish estimates and plans, doing everything to make your garden a real success.

For our rock garden and for growing our alpines we are using "Foliflor" and recommend it especially for alpine gardens, perennials and shrubs, roses and house plants. Foliflor is plant food without filler, soil purifier and promoter in one. Its application makes fertilizing so easy. Of only slight solubility, it is absolutely harmless to plants, roots or foliage, mixed into the soil or applied on the surface around the plants it acts so long until all is dissolved. One pound per 100 square feet will act for one to two seasons without any further fertilizing. For best results, mix it into the soil together with peat moss.

1 Package, 24 oz., \$1.00; 5 lbs. \$3.00. U. S. Patent applied for.

ACAENA carpeting plants from New Zealand need slight protection, sun—half shade.

Argentea, Buchanani and microphylla inermis .35 each.

ACHILLEA for dry sunny places in rocks; fine foliage, mostly silvery. Argentea, white .40, tomentosa yellow .30.

AETHIONEMA, most graceful little shrublets for light soil, full sun, good drainage, bluish foliage, pink flowers.

Coridifolium, oyalifolium, 35 each.

AJUGA reptans, blue .30.

ALLIUM, cyaneum blue .30, flavum .40.

ALSINE, grass-like foliage, for walls, walks, steps, dry and sunny, white flowers.

Liniflora .30, pinifolia .25, Rosani .40.

ALYSSUM yellow flowering little shrublets, dry, sunny, light soil, foliage heavy silvered, easy and good.

Saxatile compact .20, citrinum .25, saxatile flor pleno .40, repens .35, Rocheli major, a beautiful thing with flowers in spring and in fall and laying its shoots flat to the rocks .60, serpyllifolium and Wulfenianum each .40, spinosum and spinosum roseum are distinct and not too hard to please .40.

ANCHUSA myosotidiflora, blue spring flower .35.

ANDROSACE, considered among the choicest true alpines, plant in gritty soil and protect with a glass jar from moisture in winter.

Chumbyi, primuloides, sarmentosa each .40, lanuginosa leichtlini 50.

ANEMONE fulgens, scarlet .30.

ANTHEMIS aizoon .35, styriaca .50.

AQUILEGIA pyrenaica is the best dwarf for the rock garden, true, plants for fall .40.

ARABIS, Rock cress, very easy growing carpeting plants, with white or pink flowers in early spring.

Alpina compacta .20, alpina flor pleno .25, alpina rosea .30, aubrietoides is the finest, flowers pink in spring and again in fall, .35, stock limited, Kellereri, procurrens and sturii are white flowering varieties, .30 each.

ARENARIA like Alsine

Balearica for cool rocks .30, purpurascens .40, tetraquetra .35.

ARMERIA, compact plants for walls, steps and walks, dry and sunny. Laucheana rosea .25, lencocephola white .30.

ARTEMISIA, wormwood, bitter, aromatic herbs, very decorative foliage, Absynthium .30, laxa (mutellina) .40, stelleriana .25.

ASPERULA, woodruf, cynanchica sun .30, odorata shade .30.

ASTER alpinus .25, porteri superbus, ptarmica, subcoeruleus each .30.

AUBRIETIA the most brilliant and useful carpeting plants in full sun. Purple Beauty is a robust floriferous development with us, stock limited .50, Dr. Mules .40, Fire King, Leichtlini .35 each, seedlings .25.

BELLIS rotundifolia coerulea is the improved English daisy .30.

CALAMINTHA alpina .25 and acynos .30 are useful carpeters in sun, chinensis .30, is more erect.

CAMPANULAS, bellflowers, are among the best alpines for the rock garden; they furnish the blue color in the advanced season.

Carpathica .25, China cup, white star, garganica, pusilla and pusilla alba each .35, fenestrellata, garganica hirsuta, Portenschlagiana (muralis) major and minor, turbinata pallida each .40, G. F.Wilson, pulloides and Raineri hybr. each .50, Wockeii with velvety gray foliage is new .75, isophylla, the Star of Bethlehem, is white, for pots, is not hardy for outdoors .50-1.00.

CERASTIUM, snow in summer, rapidly spreading in full sun, white, Biebersteini .20, Columnae is a much more refined plant of moderate growth .40, alpinum lanatum is very hairy and alpinum groenlandicum .40 each, are not invading.

DIANTHUS, the rock pinks are very useful plants; the alpine type requires a little more care than the others.

Caesius compactus and hybridus each .35, deltoides in white and pink .20 each, \$2 per dozen, selected forms as the true deltoides brilliant, dwarf, dark green foliage and deep red flowers and splendens with bright clear color, also new forms improved .25-.30, grisebachi is a carpeter with deep red flowers .50, Midland pink, a lovely profuse bloomer, striking color and bluish foliage will be admired everywhere .30, neglectus .40, superbus nanus .30, sylvestris .25, atrorubens .35.

DRABA compact yellow or white early flowering little rock plants for sun, excellent in walls.

Cuspidata and hispanica .40 each, fladnizensis .25, aizoides .35, Bertoloni .40, Dedeana .40, repens .30, and species unnamed .35.

ERINUS alpinus .30.

ERODIUM macradenum for walls, flowers all summer .75.

ERYSIMUM early flowering rock plants, sun.

Linifolium sold out, pumilium best in walls .30, purpureum .30.

GERANIUM for sun and gritty soil

argenteum, lancastriense, Wallichianum .40 each, sanguineum .35.

- GLOBULARIA nudicaulis, flowers blue balls .30.
- GYPSOPHILA, carpeting rock plants in walls, sun and light soil. alpigena .40, cerastioides .30, repens and repens rosea .25 each.
- ${f HELIANTHEMUM},\ {f rock}\ {f rose},\ {f prostrate}\ {f little\ shrubs\ with\ flowers\ all\ summer}.$

mutabile in mixed colors .25.

- HELICHRYSUM lanatum, a carpeting woolly everlasting .25.
- HELIOSPERMA, often listed under Silene.

  pudibunda pink little stars in wall, half shade and some moisture
  .40, quadrifida white .30.
- HEPATICA acutiloba and triloba, clumps .30.
- HERNIARIA glabra makes a flat green cover for bulbs, or drops over a rock, easy good grower, seeds freely .25.
- HEUCHERA sanguinea Pluie de Feu, the true brilliant colored coral bell .40.
- HYPERICUM shrubby or half shrubby, yellow flowers all summer. coris .35, reptans choice creeper .40, grandiflorum new and very fine, single flowers more than two inches across .75, rhodopeum another new one, grayish green foliage, choice .60, calycinum .40.
- IBERIS, the evergreen candytuft, nice little shrubs, early, white flowers, plant in combination with alyssum saxatile, dwarf phlox, iris, aubrietias.
  - garrexiana .30, little gem .30, sempervirens .25, snowbird is a new fine dwarf selected by us and superior to any of the foregoing .40.
- INULA rhizocephala is a very scarce choice dwarf alpine 1.00, royleana .35.
- IRIS, dwarf for alpine gardens.

  cristata for half shade, humus and some moisture .30, pumila, the true purple species and fairy, a dwarf form, bluish, each .35.
- LEONTOPODIUM, the Edelweiss of the Alps, everlasting in light sandy soil, full sun and good drainage.

  alpinum .35, sibiricum, out of stock, Amrheini, lindavicum and transsylvanicum are hybrids with larger flowers .40 each.
- LINARIA creeper with flowers in profusion all summer, plant in crevice for some protection. They seed out freely.

  cymbalaria .25, hepatiaefolia larger, origanifolia not invading, pallida alba each .30.
- LINUM, flax, alpinum, narbonnense each .30, hirsutum choice .50.
- LYCHNIS are of easy culture, flowers in heads.

  alpina is the smallest, Haagaena, Arkwrightii, viscaria splendens have bright scarlet flowers .25 each.
- MAZUS rugosus, little creeper for fresh soil and half shade .30.
- MENTHA Requieni, an aromatic, fine, minute carpeter .30.
- MERTENSIA virginica, the Virginian bluebell .30.

- MYOSOTIS rupicola the Forget-me-not of the high Alps, compact heads, deep blue .40.
- NEPETA mussini, a rapid grower with lavendar flowers .25, glechoma is an invading creeper for out of way corners .25.
  PAPAVER alpinum, the poppy of the Alps, in mixed shades of white,
- - yellow, orange, salmon, for exposed location in sandy soil .25, nudicaulis, with form tibeticum in various shades to deep orange .25. monanthum, orange red, very good .40, rupifragum .30.
- PARNASSIA palustris and caroliniana have streaked white flowers in July-August and belong to the saxifraga family, fresh location .40.
- PARONYCHIA, carpeting plants in sun. argentea .40, serpyllifolia .30.
- PHLOX, carpeting Phloxes are of the highest value in the rock garden. Combinations of the different varieties together with other spring flowering plants, such as Alyssums, Iberis, dwarf Irises, make the most beautiful display. They are of easy culture in light soil and full sun, good drainage.
  - amoena rose .30, reptans or stolonifera .30, subulata in colors of white, pink, lilac under different names as nivalis, nelsoni, frondosa, rosea, lilacina in separate shades or mixed .25 each, Alice Wilson, Fairy and Moerheimi, apple blosson each .30, vivid the most brilliant .35, divaricata canadensis in selected plants .35.
- PLUMBAGO larpentae, beautiful, deep blue flowering bushling, all late summer .30.
- POLEMONIUM reptans light blue spring flower .30.
- POTENTILLA fructicosa .25, shrubby, tridentata evergreen shrubby .30, nepalensis "Roxana" .35.
- PRIMULA, precious plants for the alpine garden and the water side, for walls and meadows. One of the largest families for garden plants. The majority requires a deep, rich, moisture-keeping soil acaulis grandiflora .30, asthore seedlings .50, cashmeriana lilac rose .35, cashmeriana alba .40, denticulata .40, elatior white swan .30, longiflora is an outstanding primula superior to farinosa and frondosa .60, spectabilis .75.
- RUTA patavina, choice foliage plant with peculiar odor .40.
- SAGINA subulata belongs to the arenarias (caespitosa) also called spergula pilifera, and is the moss or "grass" used for walks, stepping stones and even for lawns, with minute white flowers all summer .20, \$1.80 per dozen, \$12 per 100, for two inch selected plants, ordinary quality \$9 per 100 plants.
- SANTOLINAS are very decorative foliage plants, resembling ground pines or small evergreens, and fit nicely between rocks. In exposed location give slight protection in winter.
  - incana .25, pinnata and lindavica are newer green forms .40 each.
- SAPONARIAS are carpeters with a deep root. ocymoides splendens .25, ocymoides alba .30, Wiemanniana choice .75.

SATUREJA, aromatic shrublets in the same family as calaminthas, micromerias and thymes, all very useful rock plants, especially desirable for the late flowering time.

montana .30, amoena choice .40.

SAXIFRAGA the most typical and useful alpine or rock plant. The whole family contains hundreds of varieties and most of them make wonderful garden plants. While some of them are difficult, most of them are grown quite easily if not given too much sun and not kept too dry. They are all choice carpeting plants and there is no finer plant for rock crevices, for which locations they ask. Many have fine green divided foliage and we call them the mossy saxifragas, while others form beautiful rosettes with stiff, silvery foliage with lime encrustings and we call this group the encrusted saxifragas. The botanic classification divides the saxifragas into more groups, but we shall not bother with them here.

Mossy saxifragas: bathoniensis pink .35, Bluetenteppich .40, cuneata new for sun .50, decip. hybr. grdf. alba .30, hypnoides fine white .30, J. Bremner .50, muscoides atropurpurea .40, latepetiolata new and interesting .50, trifurcata stands more sun .35. 1 dozen mossy saxafragas in mixture, our selection. \$3.00.

S. geum, fleshy rosettes .40, mertensiana .30, granulata, fall .30.

Encrusted saxafragas: aizoon .35, aizoon flavescens .40, aizoon rosea .40, aizoon hybrid choice .50, cochlearis .50, lingulata bellardi .40, Andrewsii .35, Macnabiana .30, cotyledon pyramidalis .40, cateramensis .50, altissima .40, churchilli .50, crustata .40, apiculata .50.

SCHIVERECKIA bornmuelleri, dwarf, early white spring flower between arabis and draba, nice foliage, .30.

SEDUM Besides many worthless sedums there are a good number of useful ones and, with a few exceptions, of easy culture. While the Eastern States give us three good sedums, the West has more varieties, but in general, these are giving us more trouble. A number of tender sedums are native in Mexico. We have grown more than 60 varieties, about half of them we can offer as the best.

acre, album, glaucum, hispanicum, sexangulare, reflexum, sarmentosum, spurium coccineum .20 each, \$2 dozen.

borderi, brevifolium, lydium, Kamtschaticum, nicaense, spectabile Brilliant, spectabile fol. variagata, Middendorfianum, tennifolium, ternatum, .25 each, \$2.50 per dozen.

boloniense, dasyphyllum, Kamtschaticum fol. variagata, majellense, orbiculare, oreganum, pulchellum, pruniatum forsterianum, Sieboldi, each .30, \$3 per dozen. anacampseros .35, nevii, pilosum, semperviyum, obtusatum, populifolium, .40 each.

linearis and linearis variegata are new, .35 each.

SEMPERVIVUM Should be planted more extensively for their good behavior and appearance. Plant in sun or half shade in any soil. arachnoidum, arenarium, doellianum, globiferum, laggeri .20 each, tectorum .10, Browni, caleareum, glaucum, pyrenaicum, fimbriatum, triste, Pittoni .30 each, Regina amaliae, rubicundum, rubicundum hybrids A, B, C, .40 each, choice varieties with most beautiful colorings.

We have limited quantities of atroviolaceum, .50, accumimatum, comolli, patens, ruthenicum and wulfenianum .35 each.

1 dozen sempervium mixture, our selection, \$2.50.

SILENE belong to the pink family and are all good rock plants, for sun or half shade, some go under the name of heliosperma. acaulis saxatilis .50, alpestris .25, dinaricus .30, maritima and maritima rosea each .25, moorkroftiana new .40, saxifraga .30, Schafta .25.

STACHYS lanata .30.

STATICE incana nana .30.

SYMPHIANDRA pendula .35.

TEUCRIUM montanum .50.

THLASPI montanum .60.

THYMUS are most beloved rock garden plants for producing beautiful carpets, draping rocks or making erect little bushlings, foliage evergreen and very aromatic, sun and light soil. montanus albus and montanus coccineus with minute foliage, serpyllium, serpyllium splendens, lanuginosa each .25, citriodorus aureus .30, argenteus .35, maximus new .40, nummularius .35, marshallianus .40, nitidus, the most tender, most beautiful and most fragrant of

all .40, herba baronnoe and micans each .40.

TUNICA saxifraga rosea, long flowering misty spray .20, nana .25.

VERONICA, large family with many dwarf varieties, green or silvery foliage, and blue, white or pink flowers, for sun or half shade. chamaedrys .30, corymbosa stricta .35, gentianoides .35, exaltata .30, incana .30, prostrata in finest mixture .35, repens .25, rupestris .30, rupestris nana .35, saturejoides, saxatilis .40 each, spicata erica .35, and teucrium .30.

VINCA minor, ground cover for shade .20.

VIOLA cornuta Bowles Black .30, pedata .25.

VITTADENIA triloba .35.

WULFENIA carinthiaca, shade, rich soil .50.

## Rock Garden Shrubs

COTONEASTER horizontalis 1.00-1.25.

CYTISUS andreanus \$1., andreanus pendulus 1.25, choice brooms nigricans 1.00

GENISTA aethnensis \$1, pilosa .75.

DAPHNE cnoeorum \$1-1.50, mezereum .75.

EVONGMUS carrieri .75, Kewensis .50.

LONICERA pileata .75.

Postage on shrubs extra.